

NEW COUNTY MEANS PROGRESS.

Dr. Stackhouse Favors Smaller Counties Because they are in the Line of Progress. Good Advice to Our Border Friends.

I favor the formation of a new county and will support it for some of the following reasons:

The proposed new county is an area with but little bone, agricultural possibilities and future not excelled by any in the South. We have high priced lands and have Marion's treasury more than the taxes of the county. We have to every fair minded man what per cent we have in our territory. When I think of the long and expensive bridges we have helped the lower end of the county to build and when I remember that the large swamp area they have will always made it expensive to build and keep up roads, I know the reason old Marion opposes so bitterly the division of the county.

Let our people remember that on Dec. 14th we can lap off that end of the county in which the greater part of our taxes have always been spent and can begin to spend our money on our own roads and bridges right at our doors. While we will have a small county we can make it a model second to none in the State.

And we have a territory having and lay in easy reach of every public road and yet I do not believe there is in S. C. a single area of fertility having half so bad a reputation. For thirty years and more we have annually paid into Marion a tax equal to and exceeding the tax in many of our sister counties. I ask what has become of the money? Marlborough, Florence, Sumter and Darlington have built magnificent sand Wilson roads. During this 30 years King and counties have built beautiful houses. I wish every voter

Four of our territory to think of the old court house at Marion in regard to the deep sand beds and impassable mud holes and lent trans we have dragged through the years and ask ourselves are we willing to go on with this forever. Our Marion Overcharge are shaking a red flag along to be piers of our new county and Overjudgment—they will kill you Claims whikes. With \$25,000 in overcharge and a site for the public The 1908 will it not be much cheaper it at Dillon and spend our Total ourselves? Or do you pre- have their representatives The full a bill in the Legislature to \$75,000 Court house in

Paul Jones and let our road money Anheuser-Bus at Gallavants Ferry Augusta B. the long and expensive Frank G. T. a lower Marion county Live Oak E. the past 30 years? If you J. A. Magni roads with a moderate Old 776" I vote for the new county J. F. Bickm. ber 14th. Belrov Disti. small county means bet- Big Four D. protection. With good H. A. Thiem. an extension of a few D. Sacks & S. lines a sheriff from Dil- H. Rosenthal reach the remotest part Total ...nty in one hour. I wish

Money lies settle on farms all Launers, Spe...rte section. The pres- rens county's price of cotton makes good money in these are P. B. Y. better than any other Weathers. A 3 with better roads and Weathers sold ee protection for our three hogs that ren and sweethearts, and on last Satur. a great many of our 20 fine porkers, have moved into town old, the lot bringin the farm. paid in Launers is

To Double Track I ent higher, provided to go on living like last 30 years in old Greenville, Spec. I see it the new rumor is current her progress in every ern railway has with roads—better po- days let contracts for better country its main line between er citizenship. For Atlanta. According to in this new com- work of double track jurors, witnesses ed at an early date fro ty and spend ev- end. It is proposed that with his family. mer of 1910 work will h taxes comes, it better living com- pleted as far nort has tle. Personally, and now in the b to see an in- try conditions—

Dies at the Result of Greenville, Special—W bridges, good an employee of the Poe mi police protection day as the result of an in- ceived Saturday night in fa street car. He attempted almost certain while the car was in motion carried by a thrown heavily to the ground ing the injuries from which the winning Smith was 28 years leaves a wife, but no child body was carried to Lowell,

will want favors at our new county seat. It will be much easier to ask such favors when it is known in Dillon that you voted for and helped to carry the new county. In a great many conventions when it is seen some one is going to be elected to a position some one moves to make the election unanimous; that is all the opposition change their votes. I hope our border friends will help us make this election unanimous and let all of us begin house-keeping on an equal basis.

Wade Stackhouse.

New County Means Good Roads.

Editor, Dillon Herald, S. C. Dear Sir: I have been reading with a great deal of interest the fair and honorable fight you have been making through the columns of your paper for the New County and as the election is near at hand I thought I would write and tell you that everything is bright and favorable in this section.

When the fight first started, and even up to a few weeks ago, the New County cause had considerable opposition; but nearly all who opposed the formation have now realized that the election will be carried by a safe majority, and that it is to their advantage and interest to come forward and assist in getting it formed. When the county is formed the people have no idea how much they will be benefited, for I myself, can remember when the people did not mind going to Marion to court and spend the whole week if necessary—in fact it was regarded as a week off. Now conditions have changed. We are commercial age, and the man who living in a hustling, aggressive commercial age, and the man, who now is required to leave his farm or business for a day or two to go to Marion to serve as a juror or witness considers it a hardship. When the County is formed any citizen living in the New County can return home at night, attend to his business and go back to court the following morning. This, I think, should appeal to every man who considers his time of any value.

The people in this section, also know that when the new county is formed the Sand Bed across the river from Dillon will be changed and all roads in the county will be small and the supervisor can get around every year. But as it is now, the chain gang does not reach our section but about every four or five years, and on some of our public roads, the county has never sent the chain gang.

I am satisfied there has been a wonderful change of sentiment in this section since the last election and the new county vote here next Tuesday will be much larger than it ever has been.

THE MATTER OF TAXES

Nothing in the "Higher Tax Argument" when You Think it Out for Yourself. A Catch Phrase that has been Worked until it is Threadbare. People too Intelligent to Notice it Now.

To the Editor of the Herald—Just at this time, when the minds and hearts of every man, woman and child in our "new county" are set on the great question that confronts us and to be settled at the ballot box on the 14th inst., I feel that I cannot further refrain from saying a word on the subject.

The glad news comes to us daily from every section in our "new county" "we are gaining strength" and when I look these good honest citizens in the face and hear their reports, I feel that the matter is not much longer to be a question, for during the past week I have talked to several who have heretofore opposed us vigorously who now come with the glad news "that whereas, I was blind, now I see," and now Mr. Editor, I have been keeping posted in the claims for and against the new county and for my life I cannot see how a sensible person can accept some of the arguments of our opponents, telling why we should not be cut off. Why the old "Tax" bugaboo is on again as usual. I thought they wore that out 16 years ago, for well do I remember how much the tax question was agitated in our "new county" elections held then, and to the ignorant and unwary this argument was accepted and it had us in our fight.

I cannot blame our opponents in "old Marion" to fight us, for we well know that the upper end of the county (the new county) pays the greater portion of the taxes and realizes nothing it taking the greater portion to keep up the waste in the lower part of the county. Yes, Mr. Editor, the Messrs. Dillon have given the money to put up the building and a site on which to locate it and without any strings tied to it. Lord bless them for we are proud to have such men. Now this site donation has been criticised by our opponents, who say the Messrs. Dillon "reserve the right to give etc." Why Mr. Editor we, who know the Messrs. Dillon and know them to be gentlemen of their word who do not study any trickery and there is not one of us who would doubt for one moment any promise made by them. Now, if we will stop and reflect for a moment, we feel charitably inclined to our opponents who seem so distressed about "our" tax burden. We certainly do thank them for their kind consideration of our future welfare for it is kind in them not to want to overtax ourselves. Now, I fell just here that it is "not because they love Caesar less, but that they love Rome more." I wish that we could all see this matter as our friend, Mr. R. P. Hamer, sees it. I want every one of your subscribers who did not read his article copied from "The Florence Times" in your paper last week, to do so; it is broad, and "far reaching."

Now Mr. Editor, in conclusion, I feel that our new county scheme is no longer a project, but a certainty. I feel sure we have won; only a few days more, let every new county man in her borders make himself a committee of one to get out, and do something, for we each and every one have "a mission to perform."

T. L. Bass

Observer Wants Independence.

To the question, "Why should the people of upper Marion wish to draw off from the old county and do business under their own name," a number of reasons may be given; a few among them are:

1st. We want to, and we regard any opinion and effort to the contrary as meddling, officious, presumptuous and offensive to us in the extreme.

2nd. Because we know our own business.

3rd. Because we are old enough and wise enough we think to attend to that business.

4th. Because we are rich enough in things material to go to house-keeping on our own hook without any help from outsiders.

5th. Because we are tired of paying the bulk of the taxes and getting no adequate returns from the outlay.

6th. Because having the richest farming section of the State we know we can have the banner county of the State.

GOOD ROADS AND BETTER SCHOOLS.

The Result of Smaller Counties is the View of Pro Bono Publico who has Made a Close Study of the Situation.

The two most essential things for the advancement and uplifting of this county are our public schools and our public roads. These two systems which cause more trouble give more satisfaction are given less attention and cost more money than all other public affairs taken together. Therefore they are of the most vital interest to us and should command our attention above all things else. Then if this is true, which on the face of it is the case, anything that retards their progress and improvement should be condemned and on the other hand anything that may be beneficial to them should be encouraged by all progressive men.

That both of these systems are far inferior to what they should be is too glaringly self-evident to be contradicted by the most optimistic person living. And why is this true? Simply because under our present system of large counties it is utterly impossible for any one man to look after the schools or the roads as they should be. For instance, it is almost one hundred miles from the extreme northern end to the extreme southern end of weight in those days, but thanks be to our Maker, these same people who were then misled have had their eyes open and are today with this county and scattered over this vast territory, from five to seventy-five miles apart are sixty-seven white and fifty four negro schools. Do you think it is possible for one man, during six months to personally superintend these schools? As to how many thousand miles of public roads there are in this county I am quite unable to say, but it is reasonable to suppose that there are more miles of road than it is possible for one man to see much less build up. For these reasons would it not be better, if this county were divided?

Now then add to this the fact that the bulk or practically all of the public funds of this county is spent in keeping up the schools and roads, for the salaries of the officers and other expenses of the county really amount to such a small sum that it can hardly be noticed. This boundless, baseless, senseless cry of increased taxes for two sets of officers' salaries is pure unadulterated foolishness. Now then for the simple reason that small counties have good schools and good roads, the people of this state are dividing up the large counties as fast as they can. Almost every year a new county is formed and whereas not many years ago, nothing was more unpopular than new counties, but now the tables are turned and nothing is more popular. Good roads and good school mean progress and civilization; small counties, better schools and good roads. Therefore small counties mean progress. It is not right for any one to stand in the way of progress and improvement. Then it is not right for any one to vote against the new county.

According to all indications the new county will win by a good majority. However, it will be well for its friends to work hard so that it may win by overwhelming majority and remember when you vote for it that you are improving your public roads, thereby your country is benefited; that you are building up your schools, thereby your children are benefited; and that, by doing both of these things, you are helping your fellow man and pushing civilization a step forward, by which you are a benefactor to mankind in general and the world at large.

Pro Bono Publico.

A Lattaite, Unselfish View.

Latta, S. C., Dec. 4, 1909.

Editor Herald: I have been watching the movements of both parties in the fight for and against the formation of the New County. In past elections I have been against the New County. I was so fixed that I saw no particular reason to try to get a new county, as I was satisfied with my present condition and did not see an special advantage coming to me in the formation of the new county. But I have thought this matter over. I have come to the conclusion that I ought not to be selfish enough to vote against the New County just because I am satisfied with what I have got. I know that the people in the upper end of this county are put at a great disadvantage and inconvenience be-

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PROSPEROUS DORCHESTER.

Dorchester county was formed out of a portion of Colleton, about five years ago. The Dorchester people cut loose from Colleton because Colleton was too large and it was impossible for the supervisor to work the roads thoroughly, and to keep the bridges in repair. Then again, the taxes were so high in Colleton that capitalists would not invest their money in the upper end of Colleton (Dorchester's territory), and that section was not developing as rapidly as it should. The Colleton people used the "higher tax" argument against the formation of Dorchester, but reference to the table published elsewhere in this issue, will show that Dorchester's levy is much lower than Colleton's, although Dorchester spent \$50,000 in erecting a court house and jail, something the tax payers of our proposed new county will not be called upon to do. The following from the columns of the Dorchester Eagle show how well the people are pleased with the change:

LEE COUNTY.

"The people of the territory comprising the new county to be known as Lee County are to be congratulated on their hard fight and final success. The people of Dorchester know just what it means, and will welcome the latest arrival into the sisterhood of counties. Dorchester was formed in the face of violent opposition on the part of the destructive element and the self-seeking individuals, to be found in abundance in Summerville. That wonderfully effective exposure of 'higher taxation was worked for all it was worth, and every school known to the scheming politician was brought into use to defeat the will of the people, and it was only by the most persistent and aggressive efforts that Dorchester county was saved."

"The result has been thoroughly satisfactory."

The Star newspaper says the legislature will not create the New County if the election is carried, but in the next breath it urges the people to "turn out and vote the scheme down."

Fork, S. C., Dec. 4, 1909.

Editor Dillon Herald: At last it seems that things are coming our way down here. There has been a great change of sentiment in favor of the New County in the last few days, due largely to the fact, I believe, that the people are beginning to understand the situation and to see that taxes are not as high in new counties as the old county crowd has led the public to believe. Then again there is some prospect of the new railroad coming our way and this fact is making a good voter lean toward the New County. I think the people on what is called the "border line" are the very ones who should vote for a division of Marion county because they will be the first to get the benefits of good roads if the New County is formed. At present the roads leading both to Dillon and Marion are not in good condition, and if the county is cut in two Marion and Dillon will make a bid for trade in the section along the "border line" by building good roads. Then there is Latta on the one side and Mullins on the other. When these towns see Dillon and Marion making an effort for good roads to the "border line" they will get interested also and the result will be a system of good roads for this entire section. I do not believe taxes will be any higher if the New County is formed. The saving in a smaller county will more than offset the expense for two sets of officers and then again the convenience will be worth something to the tax payers. The New County did not get much of a vote in this section before, but the chances are this time it will carry this poll by a good solid majority.